

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

28 September 1954

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, SR Division

THROUGH : Chief, TSS/Technical Operations

SUBJECT : Test of Burial Packaging Materials

1. Technical Services Staff/Mechanical Division is presently engaged in a burial packaging program that will test and evaluate various packaging material now on the market or in process of development by this Division.

2. The articles to be buried are old style bayonets and .38 caliber pistols. The pistols have been sterilized and rendered inoperable.

3. The articles will be packaged in various plastic hot dip compounds, heat sealable moisture resistant materials and special burial containers. The packaged items will be crated, some in cypress wood, some in pine; they will be buried in various soil types: loam, gravel, muck, sand; and in salt, brackish, and fresh water.

4. Two such caches have been placed in the Eastern United States, one in the North and one in the South. The caches are so arranged that comparative results can be noted over a five year period. The caches will be inspected at six month, one year, two year, three year, and five year intervals.

5. It is requested that the SR Division assist TSS/MD in carrying out a similar test program in Alaska. The test program will require:

A. Access to an area, or areas, under military or Agency control that provides the necessary conditions of extreme cold in the one instance, and perma-frost action in the other where the packaged material can be buried and inspected at the above stated intervals over a five year period.

B. Assistance, use of facilities, in transporting the caching material to Alaska and to the caching site.

C. Cover arrangements for two MD personnel to perform the actual caching and return at the proper times to inspect the caches.

25X1  
25X1

CONFIDENTIAL

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL

D. Tools and equipment at Anchorage necessary for transporting the material to the caches, digging the holes, and taking azimuths for cache locations; cold weather gear for the two MD personnel if such is necessary.

6. It is further requested that the [redacted] provide TSS/MD with information relative to the military caching program in Alaska and recommend suitable sites and a suitable time for the TSS/MD burial packaging test program as outlined above.

25X1

7. [redacted] of TSS/MD may be contacted regarding this program.

25X1

*WAT*  
[redacted]

25X1

Chief  
Mechanical Division, TSS

TSS/MD [redacted] :tu

25X1

Distribution:

- Orig & 1 - Addressee
- 1 - SR/[redacted]
- ~~1~~ - Burial Pckg File
- 1 - Review Board
- 1 - MD Chrono

25X1

~~SECRET~~

CONFIDENTIAL